

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 GAC-01 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

ACDA-19 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 AF-10 EA-11 RSR-01 /213 W

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R 181821 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5154

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XF

SUBJECT: EC POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS: OVERVIEW FROM
FRG FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR

SUMMARY: DURING MAY 17 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF,
FONOFF ASST SECRETARY VAN WELL SPOKE RATHER EXPANSIVELY
RE INTENSITY OF EC FOREIGN POLICY CONSULTATIONS IN
EVIDENT EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE " GLOBAL AS OPPOSED TO
STRICTLY REGIONAL INTERESTS" OF EC- NINE. VAN WELL ALSO
DISCUSSED POSSIBLE FORMS POLITICAL COMMITTEE (PC)
SECRETARIAT MIGHT TAKE, EC/ PC INTERACTION AND US/
EUROPEAN DIALOGUE, INCLUDING PROPOSAL THAT MINISTER
IN EC/ PC CHAIR VISIT US REGULARLY ON BEHALF OF
EC- NINE. VAN WELL ALSO COMMENTED REGARDING EC CON-
SULTATIONS ON MIDEAST. END SUMMARY.

1. VAN WELL BEGAN BY NOTING THE INCREASINGLY HECTIC
PACE OF PC FOREIGN POLICY CONSULTATIONS. HE SAID THE
INCREASINGLY FREQUENT MEETINGS OF POLITICAL DIRECTORS
AND FOREIGN OFFICE REGIONAL EXPERTS MEETING IN SUB-
GROUPS WAS PUTTING A CONSIDERABLE BURDEN ON BOTH THE
FONOFF IN THE PC CHAIR, AND OFFICIALS FROM OTHER
FONOFFS REQUIRED TO TRAVEL CONSTANTLY FOR MEETINGS.
WHILE FREQUENT TRAVEL TO BRUSSELS ATE UP A CONSIDERABLE
AMOUNT OF TIME, VAN WELL THOUGHT THE PROBLEM WOULD
BECOME EVEN WORSE ONCE CONSULTATIONS SHIFTED THIS JULY
TO COPENHAGEN. HE SAID HE HAD READ THE APRIL 23
KISSINGER SPEECH JUXTAPOSING US GLOBAL AND EC REGIONAL
INTERESTS DURING AN EARLY MORNING TRAIN RIDE ON HIS WAY
TO A POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING. WHILE HE SAID THERE
ARE STILL MANY DIFFERENCES ON THE OLD CONTINENT,
VAN WELL SAID THE QUICKENING PACE OF EC FOREIGN POLICY
CONSULTATIONS MADE IT RATHER DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO
UNDERSTAND THE GLOBAL/ REGIONAL DISTINCTION MADE IN THE
APRIL 23 AP SPEECH.

2. CONTINUING, VAN WELL SAID IT WAS JUST THESE
ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS THAT HAD LED FONMIN SCHEEL LAST
YEAR TO PROPOSE ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLITICAL SECRETARIAT
FOR THE PC. WHILE THE GERMANS HAD DROPPED THIS PROPOSAL
AFTER IT BECAME A DISRUPTIVE ISSUE OF POLITICAL PRESTIGE
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WITH PARIS OVER THE VENUE, VAN WELL BELIEVED " OBJECTIVE
FACTORS OF DAILY LIFE" REQUIRE SOME TYPE OF ADMINISTRA-
TIVE AID FOR THE FONOFF IN THE EC CHAIR. NOTING THAT
DENMARK WOULD HAVE THE CHAIR NEXT, VAN WELL EMPHASIZED
THE ENORMOUS FLOW OF INFORMATION BEING EXCHANGED AMONG
THE EC- NINE AND THE MANY PAPERS BEING EXCHANGED,
PARTICULARLY REGARDING CSCE AND THE SECOND DAVIGNON

REPORT.

3. AS A RESULT, VAN WELL SAID " TASK FORCES" HAD BEEN SET UP TO AID THE BELGIAN CHAIRMAN OF THE " BRANCH CSCE WORKING GROUP" AT HELSINKI; EACH OF THE OTHER EIGHT PC DELS HAD DESIGNATED REPS TO HELP THE BELGIAN CHAIRMAN. FURTHER, IN THE PC DISCUSSION OF THE DAVIGNON- II REPORT, VAN WELL SAID HE HAD SUGGESTED THAT EACH OF THE EIGHT EMBASSIES REPRESENTED IN THE CAPITAL OF THE CURRENT PC CHAIRMAN ASSIGN ONE EMBASSY OFFICER WHO WOULD CONCENTRATE EXCLUSIVELY ON AIDING THAT FONOFF WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES ATTENDANT UPON EC POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS. VAN WELL SAID THIS MATTER WAS STILL BEING DISCUSSED IN PC; NO DECISION HAD YET BEEN TAKEN (SEE BONN 5066 PARA 3).

4. VAN WELL SAID THE FRG ALSO STRONGLY WISHED TO DEVELOP AND INTENSIFY INTERACTION BETWEEN EC AND PC ACTIVITIES. HE WAS SOMEWHAT ENCOURAGED THAT THE FRENCH

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WERE SLOWLY MOVING TOWARD ACCEPTANCE OF THIS CONCEPT. FOR EXAMPLE, VAN WELL SAID THE FRENCH COULD AGREE THAT MINISTERS MIGHT DISCUSS POLITICAL POLICY ISSUES IN BETWEEN THEIR REGULAR QUARTERLY SET MEETINGS ENMARGE OF EC COUNCIL SESSIONS; UNDER THIS PROPOSAL, ANY MINISTER COULD RAISE SUCH A POLITICAL ITEM. WHILE NOT GOING SO FAR AS THE GERMANS WISH, VAN WELL THOUGHT THIS FRENCH POSITION REPRESENTED AT LEAST SOME MOVEMENT AWAY FROM EARLIER RIGID CONSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTION BETWEEN PC AND EC ACTIVITIES.

5. VAN WELL SAID BONN WOULD LIKE TO PUSH INTERACTION CONCEPT FURTHER, SO PC AND EC PERM REPS COULD DRAW UPON EACH OTHER'S EXPERTISE IN MORE BROADLY ADDRESSING ISSUES OF EUROPEAN POLICY. IN PARTICULAR, FRG WANTS "INTERACTION OF MEMORANDA" AS WELL AS EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN MAIN EC- NINE BODIES. AS VAN WELL PUT IT, CULMINATION WOULD BE IF EC PERM REPS AND FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTORS COULD GET TOGETHER IN COMMON EC FRAMEWORK UNDER SPECIAL TITLE; HE REFERRED IN THIS CONNECTION TO FORMULATION "FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS" WHICH IS SOMETIMES EMPLOYED IN EC CONTEXT. BUT VAN WELL DOUBTED THAT FRENCH AGREEMENT TO THIS "CULMINATION" COULD BE ATTAINED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

6. BESIDES FORMAL MEETINGS OF PC AND WORKING GROUPS, VAN WELL SAID OTHER ASPECTS OF POLITICAL COOPERATION SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED. HE NOTED THAT INFORMAL EC- NINE SUPPORT HAD, ALONG WITH SUPPORT IN BONN GROUP

AND NATO, GREATLY STRENGTHENED FRG DURING NEGOTIATIONS ON EASTERN TREATIES. HE NOTED INTENSIFICATION OF EC CONSULTATIONS AT UN, OCCASIONAL PREPARATION OF JOINT REPORTS FROM EC- NINE EMBASSIES IN THE FIELD, REGULAR EXCHANGES OF VIEW BY THOSE EMBASSIES, JOINT PROJECTS IN SOME LDC' S (HE CITED WEST AFRICA) AND EXPEDITIOUS, DETAILED BRIEFINGS OF EC COLLEAGUES FOLLOWING IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES. VAN WELL NOTED THAT HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH AMBASSADORS OF OTHER EC PARTNERS IN CAIRO HAD BEEN OF CONSIDERABLE HELP DURING HIS NEGOTIATION OF DEBT RE- SCHEDULING WITH EGYPTIANS.

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HE SAID GERMANS HAD CONSULTED WITH OTHER EC PARTNERS REPRESENTED IN PEKING DURING SCHEEL' S VISIT TO CHINA; VAN WELL ADDED THAT CHINESE HAD HOSTED LUNCHEON FOR EC AMBASSADORS TO FACILITATE THIS CONSULTATION PROCESS.

7. NOTING THAT STATE DEPARTMENT HAD ENCOURAGED ENHANCED ROLE FOR EUROPEANS IN MIDEAST, VAN WELL SPECULATED THAT EUROPE MIGHT BE ABLE TO HAVE AN INPUT AT A CERTAIN POINT WHICH COULD BE HELPFUL SO THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, USSR WOULD NOT DEEM US DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO BE DOMINANT ONE. IN THIS CONNECTION, VAN WELL SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED BY FACT THAT FOR FIRST TIME, A FEW WEEKS AGO, BRITISH AND FRENCH HAD BROUGHT JOINT RESOLUTION TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL. HE SAID SCHEEL AND BRANDT WOULD DRAW UPON VIEWS OF EC- NINE DURING THEIR UPCOMING VISITS TO MIDEAST. AND VAN WELL ALSO NOTED THAT ITALIAN PROPOSAL ON MIDEAST (BRUSSELS 2712 - LIMDIS - NOTAL) ALSO WOULD GET SERIOUS CONSIDERATION.

8. FINALLY, AS TO US/ EUROPEAN DIALOGUE VAN WELL RECALLED FRG CONVICTION THAT US SHOULD BE FULLY INFORMED AT AN EARLY STAGE OF ALL EC POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS. HE SAID THE FRENCH OPPOSED THIS APPRO

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ATHENS
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